

Lookout Mountain Battlefield Trail Map

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Chickamauga & Chattanooga
National Military Park
Georgia & Tennessee



Welcome to the Lookout Mountain Battlefield Trail System! With more than 30 miles of trails along the slopes of Lookout Mountain, this system provides access to key Civil War battle areas, spectacular views of the Tennessee River and surrounding valleys, and a wide array of natural features including diverse forms of flora and fauna. This map and guide is meant to help you have a safe, enjoyable, and educational visit to the park. Please read over the information and above all, enjoy your visit!

Park trails are open during daylight hours, 6:00 a.m. to sunset.



The **Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center** is the National Park Service contact station atop Lookout Mountain. Picnic tables, restrooms, water, and first aid assistance can be found at the visitor center. Inside, view exhibits about the Civil War battles for Chattanooga including the original canvas of the historic 13-by-30-foot James Walker painting, *The Battle of Lookout Mountain*. Outdoor exhibits including cannon and monuments placed by Civil War veterans allow further historical discovery at both Point Park and Cravens House. The **Ochs Memorial Observatory** offers a spectacular view and additional exhibits including information on more than 10,000 years of area history. The visitor center is open daily from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., except Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. Cravens House is open seasonally. A \$3.00 entrance fee applies to Point Park.

For your safety and to protect park resources, please do not climb on any monuments or cannons, stay on designated trails, and follow all posted warnings.
Emergencies Call 911



Hiking on Lookout Mountain can include elevation changes and steep slopes, and is often physically demanding. For your enjoyment and safety, please observe the following: Park at designated trailheads in the parking spaces provided • Do not leave valuables in your car • Wear weather-appropriate footwear and clothing • Carry and drink sufficient fluids • Do not drink from any streams, creeks, or springs • Always hike with a partner or tell someone where you are going • Use caution when crossing roads

Recommended Hikes

Easy to Moderate (1 hour or less, less than 600 feet elevation gain)

Glenn Falls (1 mile round-trip)

Access: Glenn Falls Trailhead | **Trail:** An easy trail constructed in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) leads from Ochs Highway to Glenn Falls. To reach the top of the falls, walk just past the wooden bridge and turn right up a set of stone steps. Watch for slippery rocks.

Point Park to Sunset Rock (2 miles round-trip)

Access: Point Park or Sunset Rock | **Trail:** This relatively flat hike offers vistas of Lookout Valley and provides a perspective on ground fought over by soldiers during the American Civil War. Constructed by the CCC as a fire trail in the 1930s, rockwork is visible in many areas on the downward side of the trail.

Note: Visitors must climb steps at both Point Park and Sunset Rock to access the trail. A \$3.00 entrance fee applies when entering Point Park.

Moderate to Strenuous (3-6 hours, more than 600 feet elevation gain)

Skyuka Spring (5.5 miles round-trip)

Access: Ochs Gateway Trailhead | **Trail:** From Ochs Gateway, hike down to the Bluff Trail and turn south. Continue on the John Smartt Trail and hike to the bottom of the mountain. Skyuka Springs emerges from beneath a large boulder to join Lookout Creek.

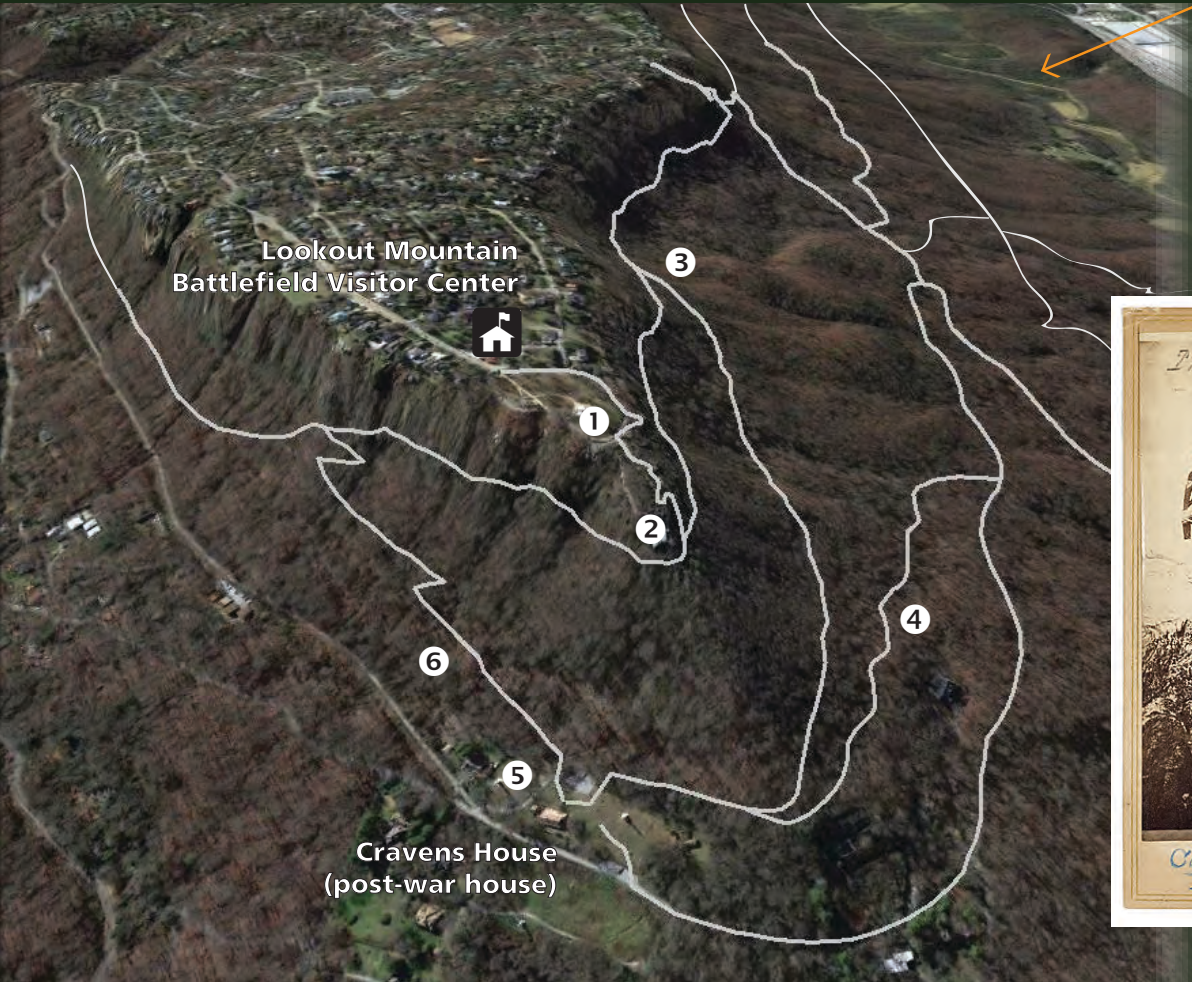
Blue Beaver (7.5 miles round-trip)

Access: Kiddie Trailhead | **Trail:** Hiking from the foot of the mountain to Point Park, this hike in part follows an old Boy Scout route tracing the Union attack up Lookout Mountain. From the Kiddie Trailhead, hike to the Skyuka Trail, then up the Lower Gum Springs to the Upper Truck Trail. Take the Rifle Pits Trail up to the Cravens House, then hike to Point Park via the Cravens House Trail.

Note: This route is different from the historic Blue Beaver Trail. The original route runs through the Chattanooga Arboretum and Nature Center (applicable Nature Center fees apply).

Battle of Lookout Mountain Hiking Tour

Moderate: 3.5 miles round-trip; 600 feet elevation gain; allow 2.5 hours minimum



Union troops cross Lookout Creek, march up the side of Lookout Mountain, and begin their advance on Confederate lines. (no visitor access)

Below: Soldiers from the 8th Kentucky Infantry (U.S.) plant the flag on Lookout Mountain. (Source: Library of Congress)



- 1 | From this western overlook, Confederate Capt. Max Van Den Corput’s battery fires artillery shells down upon Union soldiers until he cannot lower his cannon barrels enough to hit the soldiers climbing the heights.
- 2 | Near the present-day Ochs Observatory, on the morning after the battle, volunteers from the 8th Kentucky Infantry plant the U.S. flag on the point of Lookout Mountain (see photo, left). Union troops greet the sight with cheers.
- 3 | Union soldiers cross Lookout Creek below and pull on rocks and trees to scramble up the steep slopes of Lookout Mountain just south of the Bluff and Cravens House Trail Intersection, forming a line from the base of the cliff above to the foot of the mountain.
- 4 | Confederate soldiers occupy these rifle pits on Nov. 24, 1863, when suddenly blue-clad soldiers appear out of the dense fog. Surprised and outnumbered, most Confederate soldiers flee or surrender. Union soldiers continue to sweep around Lookout Mountain, fighting scattered Confederate troops.
- 5 | Reinforced, Confederate soldiers temporarily halt the Union advance at Cravens House. The fog continues to confuse fighting, later inspiring the nickname “The Battle Above the Clouds.”
- 6 | Marked by blue and red signs on the Mountain Beautiful Trail, fighting dwindles to scattered firing along the picket lines as afternoon turns to dusk. Overnight, Confederate troops withdraw to Missionary Ridge where fighting resumes the next day.

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Help us respect and care for your park!

Federal laws protect all cultural and natural features • Do not collect any objects • Do not dig or use metal detectors • Report suspicious activity to a park ranger • Please observe Leave No Trace principles • Please do not litter • Pets must remain on a leash at all times • Camp and cooking fires are prohibited • Alcohol is prohibited

Recreational Information

- Hiking:** See reverse
- Bicycling:** Permitted only on Guild, Hardy, Upper Truck, and Lower Truck Trails.
- Horse Riding:** Permitted only on Lower Truck Trail.
- Rock Climbing:** Permitted only at Eagles Nest and from Sunset Rock on rock faces above and below Bluff Trail between areas known as “the Towers” and the climb “Blonde Ambition”
 - Sport rappelling permitted only at Eagles Nest
 - Organized groups of 10+ must obtain a permit prior to climbing; contact visitor center for more information
 - Protect all trees used to attach webbing, rope, or any type of sling with protective padding thick enough to prevent abrasion of tree
- Caving:** All caves are closed to recreation and exploration activities to protect sensitive natural and cultural resources.

EMERGENCIES, CALL 911

FOR INFORMATION, CALL THE LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN BATTLEFIELD VISITOR CENTER, 423-821-7786

Elevations	
Lookout Mountain (Point Park)	2110'
Cravens House	1530'
Tennessee River (mountain base)	635'

